

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is requested. After entry of this reply, claims 133, 134, 136-142, 144-150 and 152-189 are pending in the application. Claims 133, 134, 139-142, 147-150, 155, 156, 163, 169, 173, 176, 180, 183 and 187 are amended.

In the Office Action dated September 11, 2007, the Examiner objects to claims 133, 134, 139, 140, 163, 169 and 173 due to formalities, requiring appropriate correction. The Examiner also rejects claim 166 under 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objects to claims 133, 134, 139, 140, 163, 169 and 173 due to the formality that method claim steps should begin with a verb ending in “ing.” Accordingly, the Examiner requires appropriate correction, by removing the term “automatically” as the first term in a method claim step.

In accordance with Examiner requirement, Applicants amend claims 133, 134, 139, 140, 163, 169 and 173 to correct the formality. In addition, for claim consistency, Applicants also amend claims 141, 142, 147-150, 155, 156, 176, 180, 183 and 187 to address this formality. Applicants make the additional amendments to claims 141, 142, 147-150, 155, 156, 176, 180, 183 and 187, even though these claims are not method claims. Accordingly, Applicants believe all claim objection formalities have been satisfactorily addressed.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC § 112, 2nd Paragraph

The Examiner rejects claim 166 under 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

Applicants regard as the invention. The Examiner rejects claim 166 because the claim does not contain: 1) enough steps to be an independent claim; and 2) the claim limitation which would make the claim allowable. The Examiner notes the allowable claim limitation (in accordance with the Board's Appeal Decision) as follows: "generating the business database system automatically using the semantic definitions, whereby the business database system is well-formed." The Examiner further states that the preamble of claim 166 is not in agreement with the other method claims, and suggests: "A method of automatically generating a business database system, the method comprising:".

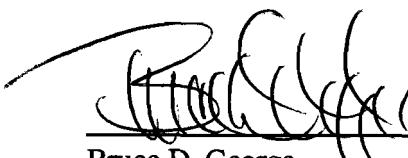
Applicants amend claim 166 to precisely recite the Examiner noted allowable claim limitation, and to adopt the Examiner's suggested preamble. Further, amended claim 166 includes two method claim steps, thereby including enough steps to be an independent claim. Accordingly, Applicants believe all 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph, issues have been satisfactorily addressed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that pending claims 133, 134, 136-142, 144-150 and 152-189 are allowable, that the application is in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner issue an early notice of allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney, upon her further review and examination of this application, should any further clarification or formalities exist. Perhaps the requirements can be satisfied by Examiner's Amendment.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of the fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 02-2555.

Respectfully submitted,



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